

Belfast City Council

Report to: Parks and Leisure Committee.

Subject: Progress report on redevelopment of Mary Peters Track

Date: 15 November 2012

Reporting Officer: Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure

Contact Officer: Stephen Walker, Departmental Portfolio Programme Manager

1 Relevant Background Information

The Committee will be aware that work is continuing to upgrade the Mary Peters Track.

Members are asked to note that construction of the new eight lane track has been completed. In addition, the newly constructed field area has been re-seeded and is now being left to grow so that it may be available for use early in the Athletics season in April 2013. Members will be aware that use of the newly seeded area at this time would damage the surface and may require additional work to reinstate it which could impact on its use during the World Police and Fire Games.

Work on the spectator stand is continuing and is scheduled to be completed in January 2013.

2 Key Issues

The Committee is asked to note:

- 1. The completion of the project remains on schedule and the facility should be available for use in April 2013.
- The existing management agreement between the Council and Northern Ireland Athletics will be advertised in mid November. Evaluation will take place in January 2013 with the aim of making an appointment in February 2013.

3. The Committee is reminded that it had been informed that a statue of Dame Mary Peters had been commissioned and would be erected on the site of the track. The initial proposal related to a statue of Dame Mary from the waist up, however, following further discussions it has been agreed that the statue will be full body. The artist provided his services at no cost to the council. The proposal was referred to Strategic Policy and Resources Committee to be included as part of the capital project.

3 Resource Implications

Financial

The additional cost of full body statue of Dame Mary Peters has been assessed by the artist to be in the region of £5-10k to include costs for an appropriate plinth.

Human Resources

There are no additional human resource implications

Asset and Other Implications

The investment will deliver a high quality athletics facility for the city and will enable athletes of all levels and abilities to train and compete on a surface comparable to major venues across the world.

4 Equality and Good Relations Considerations

There are no equality implications.

5 Recommendations

The Committee is asked to note the report and the additional costs included in this project.

6 Decision Tracking

A further update report will be brought to the Committee at its meeting in December 2012.

7 Key to Abbreviations

None.

8 Documents Attached None.